



STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

21ST FORUM 2000 CONFERENCE | 8–10 October 2017 | Prague and other cities

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CONFERENCE EVENTS

Tentative as of October 05, 2017

Sunday, October 08

11:00 - 12:30

Discussion (Faculty of Law, Charles University)

EN

CHANGING INTERNATIONAL ORDER AND THE FUTURE OF OUR PLANET

The liberal international order, as we have known it, seems to be unraveling and the global rise of populist politicians fuels selfish and isolationist policies. Trust in international system is diminishing and global governance grows increasingly more challenging. At the same time, an environmental time bomb is ticking with advancing climate change and regional food and water crisis up to launch a giant migration wave. Is the humankind heading for disaster? What can be done about it?

Opening remarks:

Prince Albert II of Monaco, Head of State, Monaco

Remarks:

Karel Schwarzenberg, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament, Czech Republic

Moderator:

Bedřich Moldan, Director, Environment Center, Charles University, Czech Republic

16:00 - 17:30

Panel (Embassy of Germany)

EN

THE CHALLENGES OF THE TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS AND THE IMPACT ON DEMOCRACY

In cooperation with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation
By special invitation only.

Recent political developments in Europe and the US have placed a significant pressure on the transatlantic relationship. The EU is going through the difficult moments of Brexit talks and discussing its future shape, political landscape in a number of important countries has been changing quite dramatically, and even key pillars of the global post World War II security order, such as NATO, have been questioned by some. What is the future of transatlantic relations? Do changes in the Euro-American space affect the global situation of democracy?

Welcome:

Guido Müntel, Spokesperson, German Embassy in Prague, Germany

Panel discussion:

Claus Offe, Political Sociologist, Hertie School of Governance, Germany

Thomas Carothers, Senior Vice President for Studies, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, USA

Yascha Mounk, Political Scientist, Harvard University, Germany

Karl-Heinz Paqué, Vice President, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Germany

Moderator:



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Pavel Fischer, Director, STEM, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

19:00 - 21:00

Ceremony and Reception (Prague Crossroads)

EN

OPENING CEREMONY

By special invitation only.

Monday, October 09

08:00 - 09:15

Working Breakfast (Žofín Palace, Conference Hall)

EN

DEMOCRACY AND INSTITUTIONAL FAILURE IN (CENTRAL) EUROPE

In cooperation with Project Syndicate and the European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic
By special invitation only.

From government's increasing attacks on the constitutional system in Poland to Hungary's deep civil-society divisions, Central Europe, once the future of the European Union, seems to be turning away from Europe. To understand this, it is perhaps important to understand why institutions are failing in the region or at least why people's belief in these institutions is. Are institutions failing in Central Europe? Is democracy in the region under threat?

Panel discussion:

Sławomir Sierakowski, Director, Krytyka Polityczna, Poland

Zsuzsanna Szélényi, Member of Parliament, Hungary

João Espada, Founder and Director, Institute for Political Studies, Catholic University, Portugal

Hugo H. Drochon, Research Fellow, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Moderator:

Tomáš Vrba, Chairman, Board of Directors, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

08:00 - 09:15

Working Breakfast (Žofín Palace, Knights' Hall)

EN

NEW/OLD MIDDLE EAST: WHAT NEXT?

By special invitation only.

After the hopes of the Arab Spring and the subsequent clash with reality, when most of the newly gained freedoms were lost in the deadly spiral of chaos, the dust has been gradually settling. With the exception of Tunisia, things seem to be the same or worse as before. Moreover, Turkey, once a regional model of Islamic democracy, is heading towards a full blown authoritarianism. How does the Middle East, especially its Arab part, look today? What are the perspectives?

Panel discussion:

Nafisa al-Sabbáh, Journalist, Editor in Chief of Masreiat website, Egypt

Amichai Magen, Head of Diplomacy & Conflict Studies, The Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya, Israel

Özge Zihnioğlu, Associate Professor, Istanbul Kültür University, Turkey

Moderator:

Tarek Osman, Author, Broadcaster, Senior Political Counsellor for the Southern & Eastern Mediterranean, EBRD, Egypt

ES



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08:00 - 09:15

Working Breakfast (Žofín Palace, Delegates' Lounge)

VENEZUELA: AN UPDATE

By special invitation only.

The political, social, and economic developments in Venezuela remain the most serious case of democratic underperformance in the region. Many people (mostly young students) have been killed during the anti-government protests since April 1, 2017. At the same time, President Maduro attempts to tighten his hold on the country, most recently by creating an assembly to rewrite the constitution. Where does the country stand today? What are its future prospects? How can the international community intervene?

Panel discussion:

Tamara Sujú, Human Rights Lawyer, Venezuela

Gabriela Montero, Pianist, Composer, Amnesty International Honorary Consul, Venezuela

Mitzy Capriles de Ledezma, Activist, Wife of Venezuelan Opposition Leader Antonio Ledezma, Venezuela

Lester Toledo, Politician, Lawyer, Opposition Activist, Venezuela

Roderick Navarro, Student Leader, Venezuela

Moderator:

Jorge Quiroga Ramírez, Former President, Bolivia

08:00 - 09:15

Working Breakfast (Goethe-Institut, Foyer)

EN

TRUMP AND BREXIT: PATHOLOGIES OF DEMOCRACY?

By special invitation only.

Serious challenges to democratic system have not avoided even the very cradles of liberal democracy. On the contrary, the Brexit vote and the election of Donald Trump have been accompanied by large amount of political populism and nationalism. Moreover, it seems that the democratic vote has been used by large segments of frustrated citizenry to revolt against globalization and social inequality. What do these cases have in common? Are they representing an oncoming global trend in democratic societies? Can similar scenarios in other countries be expected?

Panel discussion:

David Clark, Founder and Editor, Shifting Grounds, United Kingdom

Dan Schueftan, Director of the National Security Studies Center at the University of Haifa, Israel/Germany

Richard Youngs, Senior Fellow, Carnegie Europe, United Kingdom

Joshua Muravchik, Distinguished Fellow, World Affairs Institute, USA

Moderator:

Surendra Munshi, Sociologist, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, India

09:30 - 11:00

Opening Panel (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

DEMOCRACY CHALLENGED

Democracy is at a crossroads and it is facing numerous challenges. Deep frustration of large segments of societies. Civic passivity. Diminishing trust in democratic institutions. Increase of support for the political extremes. What are the key challenges democracies are facing today? Why are we in this situation? Is it a long term trend or a temporary problem?

Panel discussion:



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Yascha Mounk, Political Scientist, Harvard University, Germany
Luis Almagro, Secretary General, Organization of American States, Uruguay
Amr Hamzawy, Senior Fellow, Middle East Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Egypt
Vladimir Kara-Murza, Vice Chair, Open Russia Movement, Russia
Felipe González Márquez, Former Prime Minister, Spain

Moderator:

Ken Wollack, President, National Democratic Institute, USA

11:15 - 12:45

Youth Panel (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

IS DEMOCRACY TOO OLD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

Studies from around the world show an increasing disengagement of young people in the political process of democracies. Young people not only vote less but they also distrust political institutions. What is the reason for this decreasing political commitment? Has it do with the lack of civic education? Is it a general symptom of conformism and disillusionment in liberal societies? Is democracy not fashionable anymore?

Panel discussion:

Joshua Wong, Democracy Activist, Student Leader, Hong Kong
Zuzana Vuová, UN Youth Delegate, Czech Republic
Ramin Jahanbegloo, Political Philosopher, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Canada/Iran
Mete Coban, Politician, strategist and a charity worker, United Kingdom
Daniel Ackerman Lañado, Student Leader, Venezuela
Nyaradzo Mashayamombe, Executive Director, Tag A Life International Trust (Ta-LI), Zimbabwe

Moderator:

Tomáš Sedláček, Chief Macroeconomic Strategist at ČSOB Bank, Lecturer at Charles University in Prague, Member, Corporate Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

11:15 - 12:45

Panel (Žofín Palace, Conference Hall)

EN

THE GROWING AUTHORITARIAN THREATS TO DEMOCRACY

In cooperation with the National Endowment for Democracy and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Coalition for Democratic Renewal Panel.

Increasingly, China, Russia, or Azerbaijan have been projecting their power and influence abroad. In their neighborhood, as well as within the Western democracies. Besides the ongoing ideological debate and clash of values, hacking, information warfare, links to various political parties or influential businessmen are some of the instruments being used. What are the latest trends in these authoritarian efforts? Are democracies responding adequately? What more can be done to effectively protect the democratic systems?

Panel discussion:

Juan Pablo Cardenal, Journalist, Writer, Lecturer, Spain
Suat Kınıklioğlu, Executive Director, Center for Strategic Communication, STRATIM, Turkey
Vladimir Kara-Murza, Vice Chair, Open Russia Movement, Russia
Stéphane Dion, Ambassador to Germany and Special Envoy for European Union and Europe, Canada
Tan-Sun Chen, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan

Moderator:



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Christopher Walker, Vice President, Studies & Analysis, National Endowment for Democracy, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, USA

11:15 - 12:45

Panel (Žofín Palace, Knights' Hall)

EN

MEDIA, NEW MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY

In cooperation with Project Syndicate and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation

Maintaining the freedom and independence of the media is a cornerstone of democratic societies. While the freedom of journalists and media organizations to report the truth has largely been taken for granted, new challenges and difficulties are raising questions about how this freedom can be sustained. What role will the media play in the future of liberal democracy?

Panel discussion:

Thomas Kent, President, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), USA

Jonathan Stein, Managing Editor, Project Syndicate, USA

Andrius Tapinas, Founder and CEO, Liberty TV, Lithuania

Moderator:

Jeremy Druker, Co-Chair, Prague Media Point, Executive Director, Transitions, Czech Republic/USA

12:45 - 14:00

Networking Lunch (Žofín Palace, Delegates' Lounge)

LUNCH

For Speakers and Delegates only.

14:00 - 15:30

Panel (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

GLOBALIZATION AND IDENTITY CRISIS: BREEDING GROUND FOR POPULISM

In cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation

A side effect of the ongoing globalization processes seems to be an identity crisis in many societies which evokes the rise of nationalism, xenophobia, and populism. As a consequence, the decreasing trust in democratic institutions and political parties can be seen. New political forces are often based on a clear rejection of the system in place and offer simple solutions to complex matters. Will nationalism and populism erode liberal democracy or are they a mere short-term aberration? How to prevent the negative effects of globalization on local identities and cultures?

Panel discussion:

Roberto Stefan Foa, Lecturer in Political Science, University of Melbourne, Australia

Jón Gnarr, Actor, Comedian, Politician, Former Mayor of Reykjavík, Iceland

Senad Šepić, MP, Independent bloc, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Liav Orgad, Head of the Global Citizenship Law Research Group, WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Israel

Moderator:

Michael Žantovský, Executive Director, Václav Havel Library, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

14:00 - 15:30

Panel (Žofín Palace, Conference Hall)

EN

QUO VADIS TURKEY?

Turkey, a member of NATO and a candidate to join the EU, has been a long-time ally of the West, with functioning, although not perfect, democracy. It has even been viewed, for a time, as a regionally appealing model of "Islamic democracy". In recent years,



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however, the country's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his AK Party have been consolidating power and closing space for civil society, free media, and political opposition. This process has been accelerated by the unsuccessful 2016 coup attempt. Where is Turkey heading? Is it still a democracy? What role does it play in the region? Should it become a member of the EU?

Panel discussion:

Suat Kınıklioğlu, Executive Director, Center for Strategic Communication, STRATIM, Turkey

Štefan Füle, Former European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

Tarek Osman, Author, Broadcaster, Senior Political Counsellor for the Southern & Eastern Mediterranean, EBRD, Egypt

Moderator:

Jacques Rupnik, Political Scientist, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, France

14:00 - 15:30

Book Presentation (Žofín Palace, Knights' Hall)

EN

"DEMOCRACY UNDER THREAT" BOOK LAUNCH

In cooperation with Oxford University Press

Democracy is under pressure globally, facing both internal and external challenges. Issues such as crisis in democratic leadership, fragile state of democratic institutions, populism, as well as the increasingly assertive efforts by authoritarian regimes in China or Russia, represent a growing threat to the democratic order. The Forum 2000 has been systematically discussing these challenges and, within its annual conferences, seeking ways how to address them. Stemming from the 2016 Forum 2000 Conference "The Courage to Take Responsibility", a joint effort of the Oxford University Press and the Forum 2000, led by Professor Surendra Munshi, has brought to light the book "Democracy Under Threat." The volume, co-written by a group of illustrious authors, and freshly out of the press, provides a hard look at democracy in practice in a global perspective.

Panel discussion:

Surendra Munshi, Sociologist, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, India
Iveta Radičová, Sociologist, Former Prime Minister, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Slovakia

Adam Michnik, Editor-in-Chief, Gazeta Wyborcza, Poland

Axel Kaiser Barents von Hohenhagen, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Fundación Para el Progreso, Chile

Moderator:

Pavel Fischer, Director, STEM, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

14:00 - 15:30

Panel (Goethe-Institut)

ES/EN

DO LATIN-AMERICANS TRUST THEIR INSTITUTIONS?

In cooperation with CASLA Institute Prague
Democratic Solidarity Panel

The public opinion data in the region point to a pessimism and nonconformity of the citizens with respect to the performance of their governments, almost all of which were democratically elected. According to Latinobarometro, in 2016 only 54% of the population in Latin America supported their governments, two points less than in 2015. At the same time, 23% declare their indifference to the type of regime, and 15% of citizens are even willing to support non-democratic governments if they provide an effective solution to their problems. What factors can be attributed to the (dis)trust of institutions? Is the institutional stability in Latin America in danger? Are Latin-



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Americans inclined to military leadership?

Panel discussion:

Luis Almagro, Secretary General, Organization of American States, Uruguay

Jorge Quiroga Ramírez, Former President, Bolivia

Felipe González Márquez, Former Prime Minister, Spain

Moderator:

Tamara Sujú, Human Rights Lawyer, Venezuela

14:45 - 15:30

Book Presentation (Žofín Palace, Conference Bookstore)

EN

MONOGRAPHY ON THEODOR HERZL "HERZL'S VISION"

In cooperation with Sefer Publishing

Introduction:

Tomáš Vrba, Chairman, Board of Directors, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

Remarks:

Shlomo Avineri, Professor of Political Science, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Israel

15:45 - 17:15

Panel (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

WILL TECHNOLOGY DESTROY DEMOCRACY?

In cooperation with the Avast Foundation

Less and less, citizenship is practiced in the traditional ways. Elections are conducted on internet, demonstrations are convened via Facebook, candidates - even Presidents - inform of major policy decisions on Twitter, cell phones have replaced TV sets as the main source of news. Political campaigning, civil society activism, but even functioning of governments have changed deeply. Soon, perhaps, technology will considerably reduce human workforce needed for societies to function. What are the main benefits/risks? Is the omnipresence of technology, slowly but surely, taking away our freedom? Is technology making our societies more democratic or less? Will technology destroy democracy?

Panel discussion:

Andrew Keen, Entrepreneur and Author, United Kingdom

Xiao Qiang, Founder, China Digital Times, Professor, UC Berkeley School of Information, China/USA

Vincent Steckler, CEO, Avast, USA/Czech Republic

Moderator:

Arun Maira, Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, India

15:45 - 17:15

Panel (Žofín Palace, Conference Hall)

EN

CHINA BEFORE THE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS I: TIGHTENING THE SCREWS

Information Centre for Democracy and Human Rights in China Panel

Era of the current Secretary General and President Xi Jinping is characterized by tightening of the regime in the country. The upcoming party congress will set the country's course for the next five years. What outcomes can we expect? Will Xi Jinping further strengthen his position? What impact is the congress going to have on the lives of Chinese citizens? Will the Chinese be satisfied with the "Chinese Dream" as set by the President or does the growing wealth of the country bear a democratic potential?

Panel discussion:



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Martin Hála, Sinologist, Czech Republic

Chang Ping, Writer, Journalist, China

Moderator:

Jianli Yang, President, Initiatives for China, China

15:45 - 17:15

Panel (Žofín Palace, Knights' Hall)

EN

RUSSIA FROM WITHIN

Although Russia is trying to give appearance of a strong and assertive power, internally its system deals with serious weaknesses, in particular in economy, that translate into fragility of Putin's power structure. Often, the regime attempts to distract attention from these internal weaknesses by undertakings abroad - be it in Crimea, Eastern Ukraine, or Syria. How stable is Putin's regime six months before the next presidential elections? How does the regime deal with its main weaknesses? What are the regime's sources of legitimacy and bases of support within society?

Panel discussion:

Alexander Solovyev, Chairman, Open Russia Movement, Russia

Mark Galeotti, Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations Prague, United Kingdom

Anna Elchyan, Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO), Russia

Moderator:

Rostislav Valvoda, Director, Prague Civil Society Centre, Czech Republic

15:45 - 17:15

Panel (Goethe-Institut)

ES/EN

ELECTIONS LANDSCAPE IN LATIN AMERICA

In cooperation with Fundación Para el Progreso
Democratic Solidarity Panel

Quite recently the Latin American region has experienced elections that have been criticized for the presence of rigged voting and undemocratic procedures. There are several upcoming elections in the region that will be closely watched by the international community. It is quite likely that the outcomes of the elections could set a new pace for the development of democracy in the countries. What is the electoral landscape in Latin America? How can the upcoming elections affect the democratic development in the region? How effective/legitimate are the electoral processes in some of the countries of the region?

Panel discussion:

Mauricio Rojas, Writer, Professor, Fellow Researcher, Fundación Para el Progreso, Chile

Miriam Kornblith, Senior Director for Program, Latin America Region, National Endowment for Democracy, Former Vice-President, Venezuelan National Electoral Council, Venezuela/USA

Ileana Álvarez, Writer, Essayist, Director, Magazine *Alas Tensas*, Cuba

José Manuel Ormachúa Mendieta, Student Leader, Bolivia

Moderator:

Axel Kaiser Barents von Hohenhausen, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Fundación Para el Progreso, Chile

17:30 - 18:30

Presentation (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

EXPERIMENT: IS MY MICROWAVE SPYING ON ME?



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In cooperation with the Avast Foundation

Spying is a real deal. It is really easy to spy on anybody and we will give you examples. - What can you do to protect yourself? Filip Chytrý and Vladislav Iliushin from Avast will explain.

Participants:

Filip Chytrý, Technical Product Manager Security & Privacy, Avast Software, Czech Republic

Vladislav Iliushin, QA Engineer, Avast, Russia/Czech Republic

17:30 - 19:00

Panel (Žofín Palace, Conference Hall)

EN

CHINA BEFORE THE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS II: FOREIGN EXPANSION

Information Centre for Democracy and Human Rights in China Panel

Panel discussion:

Jagannath Panda, Head, East Asia Centre, Institute for Studies and Analyses, India

Nguyen Quang A, Democracy Activist, Vietnam

Xiao Qiang, Founder, China Digital Times, Professor, UC Berkeley School of Information, China/USA

Szu-chien Hsu, President, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, Taiwan

Juan Pablo Cardenal, Journalist, Writer, Lecturer, Spain

Moderator:

Kateřina Procházková, Journalist, Sinopsis, Czech Republic

17:30 - 19:00

Panel (Žofín Palace, Knights' Hall)

EN

HOW TO PROTECT DEMOCRATIC NORMS AND INSTITUTIONS

"Political warfare" is currently taking place within democracies, threatening to seriously undermine democratic norms and destabilize political systems. Important internal factors, such as economic or religious divisions or the migration challenges combine with the traditional political parties' lack of connecting with the citizenry, making conditions ripe for populist appeals. Liberal democratic institutions, especially political parties, are being portrayed as outdated and ineffective. Recent elections and referenda results in several democratic countries have been an evidence of this. What are the main weaknesses of the democratic political systems and how are they being exploited by undemocratic and „anti-system“ actors? Can the traditional political parties become relevant again? How? How to tackle the weakening of trust in the democratic institutions?

Panel discussion:

Ken Wollack, President, National Democratic Institute, USA

Barbara Haig, Deputy to the President for Policy and Strategy, National Endowment for Democracy, USA

Amichai Magen, Head of Diplomacy & Conflict Studies, The Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya, Israel

Senad Šepić, MP, Independent bloc, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Moderator:

Péter Krekó, Director, Political Capital Institute, Hungary



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19:30 - 21:30

Dinner

EN

GALA DINNER

By special invitation only.

Welcome:

Daniel Herman, Minister of Culture, Czech Republic

Remarks:

Nguyen Quang A, Democracy Activist, Vietnam

Tuesday, October 10

08:30 - 10:00

Working Breakfast (Žofín Palace, Delegates' Lounge)

EN

SOUTH ASIA: RELIGION, AUTHORITARIANISM AND THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

By special invitation only.

Home to the largest Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Muslim populations in the world, South Asia from its recent invention has provided an opportunity to view the successes and failures of democracy in motion, as modernity and development, take on a heady mix of ethno-nationalism, poverty and religious fervour. Today with the region at a crossroads, with the Hindu Nationalist BJP on the ascendant in India, the complex situation in the Islamic Pakistan, and the failure of political systems in Nepal, Bangladesh and the Maldives, this panel aims to explore what should we expect in the region. And – in a way – what is the future of democracy.

Panel discussion:

Jagannath Panda, Head, East Asia Centre, Institute for Studies and Analyses, India

Neelam Deo, Director, Gateway House, India

Nguyen Quang A, Democracy Activist, Vietnam

Moderator:

Hrishabh Sandilya, Political Analyst, India

08:30 - 10:00

Working Breakfast (Goethe-Institut, Foyer)

EN

CENTRAL EUROPE: 20 YEARS FROM NOW

In cooperation with the Czech-German Discussion Forum and the Czech-German Future Fund

By special invitation only.

How will Central Europe look like 20 years from now? Both Germany and the Visegrad countries face numerous challenges today - migration, populism, euro-skepticism, fake news, or questioning of key European values. On the other side, there is economic growth, strengthening relations among Central European countries, stability, and technological progress. So what are the key questions and problems for the next 20 years? What directions can Central Europe go while addressing them? Are the democratic traditions and values strong enough to provide a solid base for the future?

Panel discussion:

Karel Schwarzenberg, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament, Czech Republic

Tamás Meszerics, Member of the European Parliament, Hungary



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Agnieszka Romaszewska-Guzy, Journalist, Poland

Iveta Radičová, Sociologist, Former Prime Minister, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Slovakia

Detmar Doering, Philosopher, Publicist, Germany

Moderator:

Libor Rouček, Former Vice-President, European Parliament, Co-Chairman, Czech-German Discussion Forum, Czech Republic

08:30 - 10:00

Working Breakfast (Embassy of Sweden)

EN

"WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT IN SWEDEN?" IMAGES OF SWEDEN FROM ABROAD

In cooperation with the Embassy of Sweden
By special invitation only.

The title alludes to a well known statement by the US President Donald Trump made in February 2017. The objective of the panel is to examine how events (or non-events) are reflected in the media, how they are reported and contextualized, and what effect can they have. How has President Trump's comment affected the image of Sweden? Why do situations like this happen? How should we react?

Remarks:

Jacob Stenberg, Swedish Institute, Sweden

Hynek Pallas, Journalist, Sweden

Mauricio Rojas, Writer, Professor, Fellow Researcher, Fundación Para el Progreso, Chile

Kateřina Šafaříková, Journalist, Respekt Magazine, Czech Republic

Moderator:

Jan Šnidauf, Head of Political Section and Economic Section, EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

08:30 - 10:00

Working Breakfast (Embassy of Canada)

EN

CANADA AND EUROPE: EVER CLOSER PARTNERS?

In cooperation with the Embassy of Canada
By special invitation only.

The situation in the transatlantic area, as well as globally, is getting more complicated. Traditional allies, including the US or Turkey, are becoming less and less predictable while traditional opponents (or competitors), such as China or Russia, are getting more assertive. EU and Canada seem to be increasingly on the same boat. Is this merely a perception? What does Canada perceive as major global threats? And what does the EU? Can Canada and EU work together to safeguard the liberal international order?

Remarks:

Stéphane Dion, Ambassador to Germany and Special Envoy for European Union and Europe, Canada

Alexandr Vondra, Director, Prague Centre for Transatlantic Relations (PCTR), Member, Board of Directors, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

Moderator:

Martin Bútora, Sociologist, Institute for Public Affairs, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Slovakia

08:30 - 10:00

Working Breakfast (Embassy of France)

FR/EN

EUROPE: IS THE POPULIST THREAT OVER?

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Brexit referendum, the close result of the first Austrian attempt at electing the president, the rising poll numbers for Geert Wilders, Marine Le Pen or Beppe Grillo – all this was seen as a sign of rising populist wave in Europe. The electoral victories of Alexander Van der Bellen, Emmanuel Macron, Angela Merkel, or Mark Rutte seemed to have turned the tide. However, many of the underlying reasons for public discontent remain in place and the populist leaders retain strong support. The upcoming parliamentary elections in Czech Republic and Austria will be the next test. Is the populist wave over? What are the main populist risks to be expected at the moment?

Remarks:

Adam Michnik, Editor-in-Chief, *Gazeta Wyborcza*, Poland

Marc-Olivier Padiš, Head of the Department Studies, Think Tank Terra Nova, France

Moderator:

Jacques Rupnik, Political Scientist, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, France

10:00—12:00

Internal Meetings

COALITION FOR DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL

(Žofín Palace, Conference Hall)

YOUTH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Internal Meetings (Žofín Palace, Knights' Hall)

CARNEGIE CIVIC ACTIVISM NETWORK AND PRAGUE CIVIL

SOCIETY CENTRE

(Goethe-Institut, Conference Room)

By special invitation only.

12:00 - 13:00

Networking Lunch (Žofín Palace, Delegates' Lounge)

EN

LUNCH

For Speakers and Delegates only.

13:00—16:15

Internal Meetings

COALITION FOR DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL

(Žofín Palace, Conference Hall)

DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY

Internal Meetings (Žofín Palace, Knights' Hall)

CARNEGIE CIVIC ACTIVISM NETWORK AND PRAGUE CIVIL

SOCIETY CENTRE

(Goethe-Institut, Conference Room)

special invitation only.

13:30 - 15:00

Panel (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

RELIGION IN DEFENSE OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE?

Key principles which allowed development of modern democracy, e.g. human rights, solidarity and social responsibility, had been inspired by religious values. In the time of global challenges, particularly migration, these values seem to be eroded by rising collective fear, hatred and populism. What is the role of religions in defense of democracy? How should religions respond to the development of fear and hatred in current societies?



STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

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Panel discussion:

Paul Zulehner, Theologian and Sociologist of Religion, Vienna University, Austria
Suleiman Salim Nasser Al Hussein, Academic, University of Nizwa, Oman
Akeel Bilgrami, Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University, India/USA
Paul Cliteur, Philosopher, Professor, Leiden University, Netherlands
Nafisa al-Sabbáh, Journalist, Editor in Chief, Masreiat, Egypt

Moderator:

Ivana Noble, Professor in Ecumenical Theology, Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University, Czech Republic

15:30 - 16:15

Lecture (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

AUSTRIA AND EUROPE

In 2000-2002, after the right-wing Austria Freedom Party (FPÖ) came second in the general elections, Austria experienced a presence of populists in the government, becoming a target of relatively short EU sanctions. After a turbulent stint in government, FPÖ suffered heavy electoral loss in 2002. Today, a week before next Austrian general elections, populist tendencies in Austria, as well as in many other European countries, seem to be strong again. How does Austria see the future of Europe in this context? Can Austria's experience with the populists provide some useful lessons?

Remarks:

Heinz Fischer, Former President, Austria

Moderator:

Per Nyholm, Writer, Commentator, Columnist, Jyllands-Posten, Denmark/Austria

16:30 - 17:30

Closing Panel (Žofín Palace, Forum Hall)

EN

DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

In cooperation with the National Endowment for Democracy and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Coalition for Democratic Renewal Panel.

Democracy is threatened from within by despotic regimes such as Russia or China, that are tightening repression internally and expanding their power globally, filling vacuums left by the fading power, influence, and self-confidence of the long-established democracies. It is also threatened from within. Illiberalism is on the rise in Turkey, Hungary, the Philippines, Venezuela, and other backsliding democracies. In other countries - even long-established democracies - support for liberal democracy has eroded in recent years, especially among younger people who have no memory of the struggles against totalitarianism. There is no excuse for silence or inaction. Liberal democracy is under threat, and all who cherish it must come to its defense.

Panel discussion:

Carl Gershman, President, National Endowment for Democracy, USA
Penda Mbaw, President, Mouvement Citoyen, Professor, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal
Adam Michnik, Editor-in-Chief, Gazeta Wyborcza, Poland
Jorge Quiroga Ramírez, Former President, Bolivia
Leyla Yunusova, Director, Institute for Peace and Democracy, Belarus

Moderator:

Šimon Pánek, Co-Founder and Director, People in Need, Member, International Advisory Board, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic



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19:00 - 21:00

Discussion (Austrian Residence)

EN

AUSTRIA AND THE PRAGUE SPRING

By special invitation only.

Remarks:

Heinz Fischer, Former President, Austria

Pavel Kohout, Author, Czech Republic

Moderator:

Alexander Grubmayr, Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Austria

Wednesday, October 11

08:30 - 10:00

Working Breakfast (Prague Business Club)

EN

IS THERE A EUROPEAN FUTURE FOR TURKEY?

In cooperation with the Prague Business Club

By special invitation only.

Conference Venues

Žofín Palace

Slovanský ostrov 226/8, Prague 1

Goethe-Institut

Masarykovo 14ábř. 224/32, Prague 1

Prague Crossroads

Zlatá 211/1 (entrance from Liliová street), Prague 1

Faculty of Law, Charles University

nám. Curieových 901/7, Prague 1

Embassy of Germany

Vlašská 347/19, Prague 1

Austrian Residence

Kanovnická 70/4, Prague 1

Embassy of Sweden

Úvoz 156/13, Prague 1

Embassy of Canada

Ve Struhách 95/2, Prague 6

Embassy of France

Velkopřevorské nám. 486/2, Prague 1

Prague Business Club



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